United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

ARIZONA LIVESTOCK

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Arizona Cattle on Feed Inventory Up 4 Percent From Last Year

On March 1, 2012, Arizona had 279,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 10,000 head from a year ago and up 3,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 25,000 head during March, 4,000 head less than a year ago. During March, 21,000 head were marketed, a decrease of 4,000 head from last year.

On March 1, 2012, California had 500,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 40,000 head from last year but down 5,000 head from last month. Placements totaled 50,000 head during March, up 7,000 head from last year. During March, 53,000 head were marketed, an increase of 3,000 head from a year ago.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.7 million head on March 1, 2012. The inventory was 3 percent above March 1, 2011.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.71 million, 3 percent above 2011. Net placements were 1.62 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 400,000, 600-699 pounds were 335,000, 700-799 pounds were 469,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 510,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.76 million, 2 percent below 2011.

Other disappearance totaled 93,000 during February, 52 percent above 2011.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Number Placed on Feed, Number Marketed, and Other Disappearance, 1000+ Capacity Feedlots, By Month, State, and United States 2011-2012

State	Number on Feed 1/					Number Placed on Feed During February			Number Marketed During February			Other Disappearance During February 2/		
	Mar 1, 2011	Feb 1, 2012	Mar 1, 2012 Number	Mar 1, 2012 as % of 2011	Mar 1, 2012 as % of Feb	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as % of 2011
	1,000 Head			*Percent*		*1,000 Head*		*Percent*	*1,000 Head*		*Percent*	*1,000 Head*		*Percent*
AZ	**269**	**276**	**279**	**104**	**101**	**29**	**25**	**86**	**25**	**21**	**84**	**1**	**1**	**100**
CA	460	505	500	109	99	43	50	116	50	53	106	3	2	67
CO	1,070	1,140	1,090	102	96	215	165	77	210	200	95	5	15	300
ID	220	235	230	105	98	31	37	119	40	41	103	1	1	100
IA	650	650	670	103	103	71	85	120	79	62	78	2	3	150
KS	2,220	2,230	2,200	99	99	365	370	101	405	385	95	10	15	150
NE	2,430	2,570	2,570	106	100	350	410	117	365	390	107	15	20	133
OK	360	355	340	94	96	60	48	80	73	61	84	2	2	100
SD	265	260	260	98	100	45	47	104	48	45	94	2	2	100
TX	2,830	2,900	2,840	100	98	380	380	100	405	415	102	15	25	167
WA	205	227	233	114	103	31	41	132	30	32	107	3	3	100
Other Sts	407	463	465	114	100	47	56	119	61	50	82	2	4	200
US	11,386	11,811	11,677	103	99	1,667	1,714	103	1,791	1,755	98	61	93	152

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.
2/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

February Milk Production Up 8.3 Percent

Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 15.2 billion pounds, up 8.3 percent from February 2011. However, adjusting production for the additional day due to leap year causes February milk production to be up 4.6 percent on a per day basis. January revised production at 15.8 billion pounds, was up 3.9 percent from January 2011. The January revision represented an increase of 24 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,782 pounds for February, 117 pounds above February 2011.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.51 million head, 102,000 head more than February 2011, and 8,000 head more than January 2012.

Milk Cows and Production: By State, February 2011-2012

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	Percent change from 2011
	1,000 Head		*Pounds*		*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
AZ	**185**	**192**	**1,915**	**2,060**	**354**	**396**	**11.9**
CA	1,756	1,784	1,800	1,965	3,161	3,506	10.9
CO	123	133	1,795	1,865	221	248	12.2
FL	118	122	1,690	1,740	199	212	6.5
ID	573	580	1,690	1,800	968	1,044	7.9
IL	98	100	1,530	1,630	150	163	8.7
IN	171	175	1,585	1,700	271	298	10.0
IA	208	205	1,630	1,750	339	359	5.9
KS	122	123	1,615	1,710	197	210	6.6
MI	364	374	1,790	1,910	652	714	9.5
MN	470	465	1,485	1,585	698	737	5.6
MO	95	93	1,140	1,215	108	113	4.6
NM	324	335	1,890	1,985	612	665	8.7
NY	610	610	1,620	1,730	988	1,055	6.8
OH	271	270	1,500	1,570	407	424	4.2
OR	119	123	1,555	1,600	185	197	6.5
PA	543	541	1,510	1,570	820	849	3.5
TX	425	436	1,720	1,835	731	800	9.4
UT	86	91	1,590	1,690	137	154	12.4
VT	135	133	1,465	1,535	198	204	3.0
VA	95	96	1,440	1,510	137	145	5.8
WA	251	263	1,820	1,895	457	498	9.0
WI	1,266	1,266	1,585	1,715	2,007	2,171	8.2
23-State Total	8,408	8,510	1,665	1,782	13,997	15,162	8.3

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.
2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

United States Hog Inventory Up 2 Percent

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2012 was 64.9 million head. This was up 2 percent from March 1, 2011, but down 2 percent from December 1, 2011.

Breeding inventory, at 5.82 million head, was up 1 percent from last year, and up slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog nventory, at 59.1 million head, was up 2 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from last quarter.

The December 2011-February 2012 pig crop, at 28.7 million head, was up 3 percent from 2011. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.88 million head, up 1 percent from 2011. The sows arrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.97 for the December-February period, compared to 9.80 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.30 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 10.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

United States hog producers intend to have 2.89 million sows farrow during the March-May 2012 quarter, down 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2011, and down 1 percent from 2010. Intended farrowings for June-August 2012, at 2.88 million sows, are down 2 percent from 2011, and down 2 percent from 2010.

The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 47 percent of the total United States hog inventory, up from 46 percent last year.

February Red Meat Production Up 3 Percent from 2011

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in February, up 3 percent from the 3.81 billion pounds produced in February 2011.

Beef production, at 2.01 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, down 2 percent from February 2011. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,307 pounds.

Veal production totaled 9.8 million pounds, 6 percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 60,200 head, down 13 percent from February 2011. The average live weight was up 12 pounds from last year, at 276 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.88 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.04 million head, up 6 percent from February 2011. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.3 million pounds, was up 13 percent from February 2011. Sheep slaughter totaled 165,400 head, 7 percent above last year. The average live weight was 149 pounds, up 8 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2012 commercial red meat production was 8.04 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2011. Accumulated beef production was down slightly from last year, veal was down 5 percent, pork was up 6 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 10 percent.

Commercial Red Meat Production: By Arizona and United States 1/

Class	February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	February 2012 as % of 2/ February 2011	February 2012 as % of 2/ January 2012
	Million Pounds			*Percent*	
Arizona **3/**					
Total Red Meat	**34.8**	**36.1**	**30.7**	**88**	**85**
United States					
Beef	2,020.4	2,113.8	2,009.0	99	95
Veal	10.5	10.4	9.8	94	94
Pork	1,768.1	1,987.0	1,882.9	106	95
Lamb and Mutton	10.9	12.1	12.3	113	102
Total Red Meat	3,810.0	4,123.4	3,914.0	103	95

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.
2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.
3/ Breakdown by class not available, includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter: Arizona and U.S., January - February 2012 1/

Species	**Arizona**			United States		
	January - February			January - February		
	Number Slaughtered	Total Live Weight	Average Live Weight	Number Slaughtered	Total Live Weight	Average Live Weight
	1,000 Head	1,000 Pounds	Pounds	1,000 Head	1,000 Pounds	Pounds
Cattle	**91.2**	**118,143**	**1,299**	5,273.4	6,859,418	1,304
Hogs	**0.2**	**57**	**245**	18,582.2	5,168,098	278

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

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Release Dates for Upcoming National Reports

April 19 .... Milk Production
April 20 .... Cattle on Feed
April 20 .... Livestock Slaughter
April 25 .... Milk: Production, Disposition, & Income
April 26 .... Meat Animal: Production, Disposition, & Income
April 30 .... Agricultural Prices

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March Farm Prices Received Index Up 5 Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 186 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 5 points (2.8 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 8 points (3.9 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (1.9 percent). Producers received higher prices for soybeans, corn, broilers, and cattle and lower prices for milk, strawberries, snap beans, and lettuce. In addition to prices, the overall index is affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly movement of soybeans, strawberries, broilers, and milk offset decreased marketings of corn, cattle, cotton, and wheat.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 13 points (7.5 percent) from March 2011. The Food Commodities Index, at 173, increased 5 points (3.0 percent) from last month and March 2011.

Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 210 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index is up 1 point (0.5 percent) from February and 9 points (4.5 percent) above March 2011. Compared with February, higher prices in March for diesel, gasoline, feed grains, and concentrates offset lower prices for nitrogen, potash & phosphate, feeder cattle, and supplements.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index 1990-92 = 100	2011 March	2012 February	2012 March
Prices Received	173	181	186
Prices Paid	201	209	210
Ratio 1/	86	87	89

1/ Ratio of index prices received by farmers to index of prices paid by farmers.

Prices Received by Farmers: Arizona and United States, March 2011 and 2012 and January 2012

Commodity	Unit	Mar-11 Entire Month	Feb-12 Entire Month	Mar-12 Mid-Month
		Arizona		
Upland Cotton	$ Lb	**1/**	**0.894**	**1/**
Cottonseed 2/	$ Ton	**1/**	**299.00**	**1/**
Durum Wheat	$ Bu	**1/**	**1/**	**1/**
Alfalfa Hay 3/	$ Ton	**180.00**	**255.00**	**260.00**
Lemons 4/	$ Box	**1/**	**1/**	**1/**
All Milk 5/	$ Cwt	**19.90**	**17.10**	**16.50**
		United States		
Upland Cotton	$ Lb	0.844	0.924	0.936
Cottonseed 2/	$ Ton	1/	275.00	1/
Durum Wheat	$ Bu	8.09	8.95	9.21
Alfalfa Hay 3/	$ Ton	142.00	198.00	201.00
Lemons 4/	$ Box	29.60	35.50	35.00
Cows 6/	$ Cwt	75.20	82.00	84.50
Steers & Heifers	$ Cwt	118.00	131.00	134.00
Beef Cattle 7/	$ Cwt	115.00	127.00	130.00
Calves	$ Cwt	148.00	184.00	185.00
All Milk 5/	$ Cwt	20.40	17.70	17.40

1/ Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations or insufficient sales.
2/ Marketing year August – February.
3/ Mid-month.
4/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Lemons – 80 lbs.
5/ Preliminary; before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies
6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
7/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.